GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6840
ANSWERED ON:13.05.2002
ECO SENSITIVE ZONES
RAMSHETH THAKUR

Will the Minister of ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have received any representations from various Gram Panchayats and Public Representatives of Maharashtra against the recent decision of declaring Matheran and adjoining areas as Eco-sensitive Zone;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the reaction of the Government thereon;

(d) whether the Government are considering to review their decision of including about 100 villages of Matheran-Panvel road in the said zone;

(e) if so, the time by which it is likely to be done; and

(f) if not, the reasons therefor ?

Answer

MINISTER OF ENVIRONMENT AND FORESTS (SHRI T. R. BAALU)

(a), (b), (c), (d), (e) & (f): A large number of suggestions and objections from the public,their representatives, Gram Panchayats, NGOs and other agencies have been received, in response to the draft Notification issued on 6th February, 2002 to notify Matheran and surrounding region as an eco-sensitive zone. These suggestions and objections are both for and against the proposed notification and would need to be examined before finalizing the notification as per the provisions of Environment (Protection) Act, 1986.